



## San Juan Citizens Alliance

A voice for environmental,  
social, and economic  
justice.



View of Shiprock from  
Farmington 9-29-06

# The Air Issues

- Poor air quality now
- Projections of increased emissions in the future
- **Inadequacy of EPA evaluations/models in 2003-2004** - the emissions were underestimated as shown in the August 2006 Environ report
- Federal agencies in the Four Corners are relying on the 4CAQTF to mitigate adverse air quality
- We must plan now with strong and required measures, while we can still make a difference

# Ozone

- The projections by the modelers for the Ozone Task Force was that we are “in compliance” based on the 8-hr standard. **This standard is already in question.**
- October 24, 2006, the EPA’s Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee recommended that the United States adopt much stronger air quality standards for ozone (smog).

# Recommended Ozone Standard

0.06 and 0.07 ppm.  
(current standard is 0.08 ppm)



## Map of Ozone Monitoring Sites

### **Summary of Ambient Ozone Data - all values are in parts per million (ppm)**

The eight hour ozone values are calculated according to the procedures described in [40 CFR - Part 50](#) - (This link will exit NMED's website and take you to the federal "e-CFR" citation.) Note that a single value day is to be used in determining attainment status.

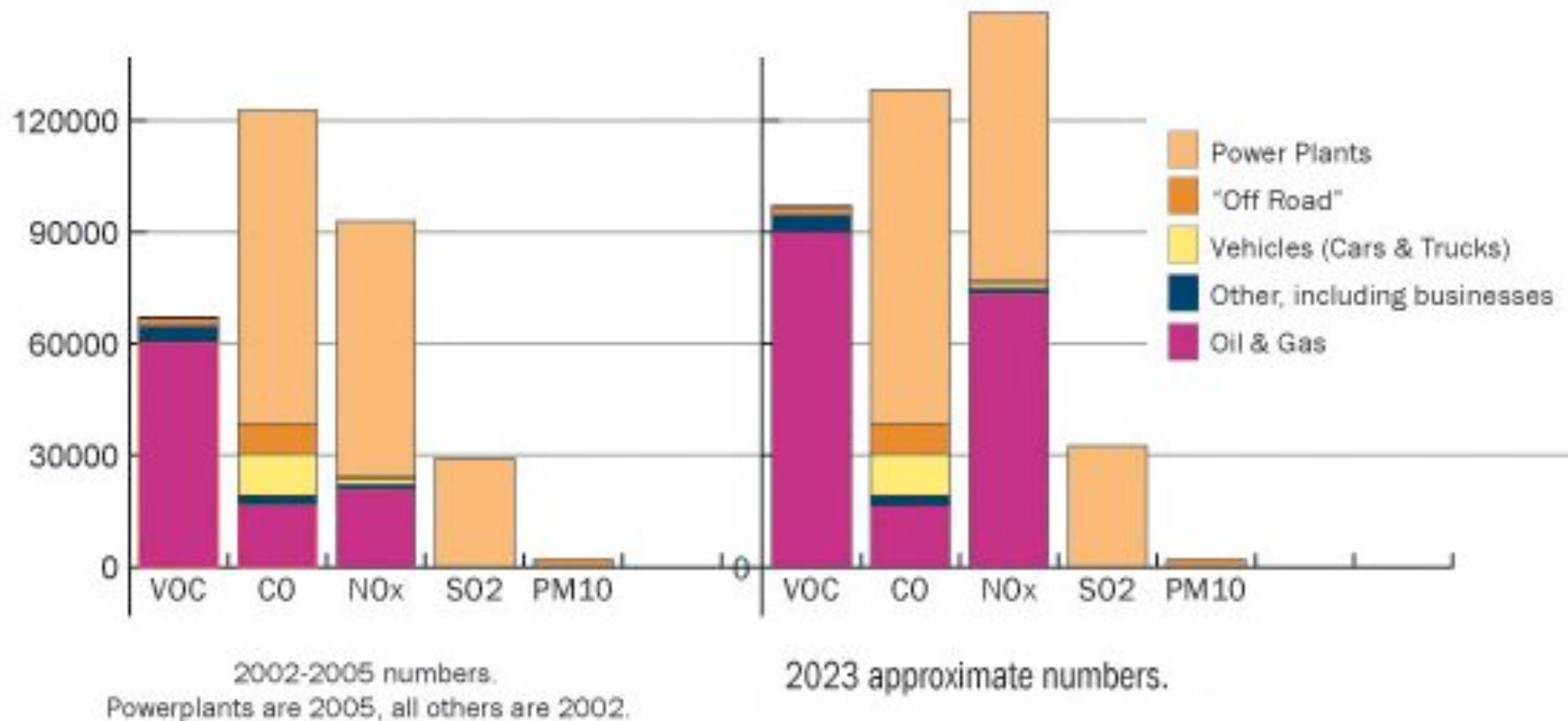
	<b>Highest Daily 8-Hour Avg.</b>	<b>Second Highest Daily 8-Hour Avg.</b>	<b>Third Highest Daily 8-Hour Avg.</b>	<b>Fourth Highest Daily 8-Hour Avg.</b>
<b>1999</b>				
Substation	0.074 (5/16/1999)	0.071 (5/14/1999)	0.065 (5/15/1999)	0.065 (5/20/1999)
<b>2000</b>				
Substation	0.084 (6/7/2000)	0.082 (8/4/2000)	0.080 (6/21/2000)	0.080 (8/2/2000)
Bloomfield*	0.085 (8/2/2000)	0.085 (8/4/2000)	0.080 (8/3/2000)	0.079 (7/26/2000)
<b>2001</b>				
Substation	0.077 (8/6/2001)	0.075 (7/28/2001)	0.075 (8/5/2001)	0.074 (5/10/2001)
Bloomfield	0.077 (8/11/2001)	0.074 (7/9/2001)	0.074 (8/5/2001)	0.074 (8/9/2001)
<b>2002</b>				
Substation	0.080 (6/17/2002)	0.077 (6/7/2002)	0.076 (6/8/2002)	0.075 (6/5/2002)
Bloomfield	0.080 (6/5/2002)	0.079 (7/18/2002)	0.078 (7/2/2002)	0.076 (6/19/2002)
<b>2003</b>				
Substation	0.078 (7/21/2003)	0.075 (6/15/2003)	0.075 (7/22/2003)	0.075 (7/24/2003)
Bloomfield	0.077 (7/24/2003)	0.074 (7/22/2003)	0.073 (7/27/2003)	0.073 (7/20/2003)
<b>2004</b>				
Substation**				
Bloomfield	0.073 (6/6/2004)	0.071 (5/16/2004)	0.069 (6/13/2004)	0.068 (5/12/2004)

NOTES: \*Bloomfield ozone monitoring started 6/8/2000.

We are already too high

Readings in Bloomfield and the substation for ozone are already higher than the recommended limit.

# Current and projected emissions



With a predicted 73,565 tons of NOx from oil and gas in the BLM Farmington Field Area by year 2023, that is more NOx than both current power plants (San Juan and Four Corners) combined. Add VOCs to make ozone.



# We must plan for the future

- The Four Corners region requires control measures and enforceable actions for air quality emissions.
- Technology is improving to allow industry to design products that reduce future impacts to air quality.
- Four Corners air pollution levels are projected to grow even with voluntary control measures.
- The degradation of air, land, and water in the Four Corners region has huge impacts on our future economy.

# Health Issues

- New Mexico has the highest concentration of airborne mercury (Hg) in the country.
- Take health issues seriously - acquire complete health data records for the Four Corners (IHS, CDC and state health departments)
- Investigate the anecdotal evidence provided by elementary teachers, pharmacists, doctors, etc. on disproportionately high rates of asthma

# Greenhouse Gas Issues

- CO<sub>2</sub> is not part of EPA PSD permit evaluations for coal-fired power plants
- The proposed Desert Rock facility would more than negate recent New Mexico State Greenhouse gas initiatives.
- Evaluate other gasses and emissions that are greenhouse gasses (methane and NO<sub>2</sub>, for example)

# Comprehensive Planning

- EPA regions 6, 8, 9 must work together with state and tribal agencies to evaluate and improve Four Corners air quality
- Plan how to achieve no net gain in pollution
- Plan how to decrease the pollution we have
- Reduce need for new power generation through Energy Efficiency, Demand-side management, and Renewable Energy.
- Postponing action will affect human health and quality of life, and cost more later.

